

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

CLAIMS LISTING

1. (Currently amended) A system for matching user identified environmental projects with resource providers, comprising:
 - environmental project survey storage means for storing data representative of at least one environmental project survey;
 - display means responsive to a user selecting an environmental project survey, for presenting said user with a display of [[said]] sections of environmental project survey, said environmental project survey including a plurality of predefined criteria data categories;
 - input means for enabling said user to input data into at least one of said plurality of predefined criteria data categories on said selected environmental project survey, said selected environmental project survey having hierarchically organized tiers of predefined criteria data categories selected from the group consisting of air, energy, land, waste, and water, such that when one of the predefined criteria data categories are selected by said user, subcategories relating to said selected criteria data categories are displayed to said user;
 - data transfer means for transmitting said selected environmental project survey and said user modified predefined criteria data categories to a central station;
 - database means located in said central station for storing said environmental project survey and said user modified predefined criteria data categories [[and]] as well as data representative of at least one characteristic of each of said resource providers; and
 - survey query means operable with said database means for automatically matching said user input data from said selected environmental project surveys with said data representative of said at least one characteristic of each of said resource providers ~~for selecting to~~ select one of said environmental projects for funding by at least one of said resource providers.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said user identified environmental projects is selected from the group of projects consisting of clean energy projects, energy efficient projects, and pollution prevention projects.

Claim 3 (Canceled)

4. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said tiers are selected from a group consisting of a first tier, a second tier and a third tier.
5. (Currently amended) The system of claim 4 wherein said first tier comprises predefined criteria data categories selected from the group consisting of air, energy, land, waste, and water.
6. (Currently amended) The system of claim 5 wherein said selected first tier displays a second tier of related predefined criteria data categories.
7. (Currently amended) The system of claim 6 wherein said selected air first tier displays a second tier of predefined criteria data categories selected from the group consisting of acid precipitation, ambient, indoor, monitoring, noise, odor, pollutants/criteria, pollutants/gases, pollutants/greenhouse, pollutants/particulate matter, pollutants/primary/secondary, radon, sampling, sources/area, sources/fugitive, sources/mobile commercial, sources/mobile fleet, sources/mobile passenger, sources stationary, visibility/pristine, and visibility/urban.
8. (Currently amended) The system of claim 6 wherein said selected energy first tier displays a second tier of predefined criteria data categories selected from the group consisting of biofuels, biomass, demand control, energy efficient, energy generation, energy sources, fuel cell, geothermal, hydro, photovoltaics, clean energy certificates, solar, and wind.

9. (Currently amended) The system of claim 6 wherein said selected land first tier displays a second tier of predefined criteria data categories selected from the group consisting of agriculture, extractive industries, forest, horticulture, industrial, open space, parks, and residential.
10. (Currently amended) The system of claim 6 wherein said selected waste first tier displays a second tier of predefined criteria data categories selected from the group consisting of bio-solids, construction/ demolition, fly ash/normal waste, fly ash/special waste, hazardous/biological, hazardous/chemical treatment, hazardous/disposal, hazardous/physical treatment, hazardous/recycling/reuse, hazardous/storage, hazardous/transportation, medical/special wastes, solid/landfills, solid/non-organic, solid/organic, solid/precycle, solid/recycling, solid/reduction, solid/reuse, and solid/waste to energy.
11. (Currently amended) The system of claim 6 wherein said selected water first tier displays a second tier of predefined criteria data categories selected from the group consisting of aquifer recharge, “grey” water reuse, ground, industrial re-use, irrigation, non-point treatment, point source treatment, potable, quality, real time monitoring, storm, surface, use reduction, waste (effluent), and wetlands.
12. (Currently amended) The system of claim 4 wherein said third tier of predefined criteria data categories is selected from the group consisting of building/design, carbon trading, conservation, consulting, consumer products, ecology/biology, ecotourism, education/training/outreach, emergency response, engineering, equipment sales/rental, financial services, food, geographic information systems (GIS), geology/geophysical, import/export, information systems, legal services, management systems, marketing/communications, natural resource management, packaging/storage, pollution prevention, process/prevention technologies, public health, public policy, remediation, resource recovery, reuse, safety, source reduction, sustainable development, and transportation.

13. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said environmental project surveys further comprises:
criteria data categories selected from the group consisting of user identified environmental projects funding and cost data.
14. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said environmental project surveys further comprises:
criteria data categories selected from the group consisting of earliest begin date for said user identified environmental project, latest initiation date for said user identified environmental project, duration of said user identified environmental project, and location of said user identified environmental project.
15. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said environmental project surveys further comprises:
criteria data categories selected from the group consisting of partner type, target audience, community served, amount of resources required, quantifiable metrics/dollars spent, scalability of the user identified environmental projects, and replicability of said user identified environmental projects.
16. (Original) The system of claim 15 wherein said partner type is selected from the group consisting of business, government, non-government, and academic.
17. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said environmental project surveys further comprises:
criteria data categories selected from the group consisting of user biographical data and free form text.

18. (Currently amended) The system of claim 15 wherein said central station further comprises:
reporting means for generating a report from said user selected predefined criteria data category, said report selected from the group consisting of the number of user identified environmental projects submitted, the past funds granted to a user, the past funds granted to a user identified environmental project associated with said partner, and the comments on finished user identified environmental projects for a user.
19. (Original) The system of claim 17 wherein said reporting means further comprises:
a report selected from the group consisting of the number of user identified environmental projects submitted within a date range, the number of user identified environmental projects submitted by location, the number of user identified environmental projects matching a specified duration, the number of user identified environmental projects submitted by a specified user, the number of user identified environmental projects that are scaleable, and the number of user identified environmental projects that are replicable, the amount of funds being requested (average), the amount of administration costs being requested (average), the amount of leverage [cash, in-kind, both] (average), the number of projects (or % of projects) per category, the number of projects (or % of projects) per target audience, (sorted by location), the number of projects (or % of projects) per partner type (average), and the amount of time to initiate a project (average), the estimated duration of a project (average).
20. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said data transfer means is selected from the group consisting of world wide web, internet, intranet, and telephony.
- Claim 21 (Canceled)
22. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said database means further comprises:
a number assigning means for assigning an identification number to each of said environmental project surveys.

23. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1 wherein said database means further comprises:
an error checking means for validating said predefined criteria data category selected on said environmental project survey prior to transmission to said central station.
24. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said central station further comprises:
a receipt confirmation means for notifying said user that said environmental project survey was received by said central station.
25. (Original) The system of claim 24 wherein said receipt confirmation means comprises email notification.
26. (Original) The system of claim 24 wherein said receipt confirmation means includes said identification number.
27. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1 wherein said central station further comprises:
an updating means for allowing a user to update said modified environmental project survey once it has been transmitted to said central station.
28. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1 wherein said central station further comprises:
a locking means for disabling a user's ability to update said modified environmental project survey once said user identified environmental project is under review by said central station.
29. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said database further comprises:
code search means for enabling said central station to search for the appropriate code listings that are used to dynamically populate list boxes on said environmental project surveys.

30. (Original) The system of claim 29 wherein said code listings is selected from the group consisting of project categories, target audience type, organization type, partner types, applicant type, state codes, and tiers.
31. (Original) The system of claim 29 wherein said code search means further comprises:
editing means for allowing an user to perform a function on the code listings selected from the group consisting of browse, add, and delete.
32. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1 wherein said database means further comprises:
an archive means for saving said modified environmental project survey to an archive library.
33. (Currently amended) The system of claim 32 wherein said archive means further comprises:
a delete means for deleting said modified environmental project survey from said database means once said modified environmental project survey has been archived to said archive library.
34. (Currently amended) The system of claim 33 wherein said central station further comprises:
an archive update means that notifies said users that said modified environmental project surveys will be sent to said archive library on said database means if not updated.
35. (Currently amended) The system of claim 34 wherein archive means further comprises:
a restore means for restoring said deleted modified environmental project survey from said archive library to said database means.
36. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1 wherein said database means further comprises:
a dating means for tracking submitted dates and updated dates of said modified environmental project surveys.

37. (Currently amended) A method for matching data, which is representative of at least one resource provider, which data is stored in a database located at a central station, with data indicative of a user identified environmental project submitted to said central station through a remote computer, said central station having a server connected to said remote computer through a network, comprising:

presenting said user with an environmental project survey ~~[[to]]~~ on a display which is connected to said remote computer, said environmental project survey including at least one predefined criteria data category;

inputting data, which is received from said user, to said at least one predefined criteria data category on said environmental project survey, said environmental project survey having hierarchically organized tiers of predefined criteria data categories selected from the group consisting of air, energy, land, waste, and water, such that when one of the predefined criteria data categories are selected by said user, subcategories relating to said selected criteria data categories are displayed to said user;

translating said data which is input to said predefined data categories by said user to create a modified environmental project survey;

transmitting said modified environmental project survey to said ~~server~~ central station;

storing said modified environmental project survey ~~to said~~ in a database, which is connected to said ~~server~~ central station; and

automatically matching ~~said inputted at least one criteria data category from~~ said modified environmental project survey with said data representative of said resource provider ~~for selecting to identify~~ one of said environmental projects for funding by at least one of said resource providers.

38. (Currently amended) The method of claim 37 further comprising:

notifying said resource provider of said matching at least one predefined criteria from said stored modified environmental project surveys.

39. (Currently amended) The method of claim of claim 38 further comprising:
saving ~~to said database~~ said matching ~~said selected at least one predefined criteria data~~
~~category from said~~ modified environmental project survey ~~with said resource provider in~~
said database.
40. (Currently amended) A method for informing a resource provider having specific criteria about matching user identified environmental projects submitted to a central station through a remote computer, said central station having a server connected to said remote computer through a network, comprising:
presenting an environmental project survey to a user located at said remote computer, said environmental project survey including at least one predefined criteria data category;
inputting data, received from said user, into said at least one predefined criteria data category on said environmental project survey to create a modified environmental project survey, said environmental project survey having hierarchically organized tiers of predefined criteria data categories selected from the group consisting of air, energy, land, waste, and water, such that when one of the predefined criteria data categories are selected by said user, subcategories relating to said selected predefined criteria data categories are displayed to said user;
transmitting said modified environmental project survey to said central station including a database;
storing said modified environmental project survey to said database;
matching said inputted at least one predefined criteria data category from said environmental project survey with said specific criteria to produce at least one modified environmental project survey that matches said predefined criteria data category for selecting one of said environmental projects for funding by at least one of said resource providers; and
transmitting from said central station to said resource provider said matched at least one modified environmental project surveys.

41. (Currently amended) The method of claim 40 further comprising:
saving to said database said matching at least one predefined criteria data category from said modified environmental project survey.
42. (Currently amended) A method for submitting a user identified environmental project to a central station through a remote computer, said central station having a server connected to said remote computer through a network, comprising:
presenting a user ~~[[an]]~~ with a display of a user selected environmental project survey, said user selected environmental project survey including at least one criteria data category;
translating input received from said user to said predefined data categories to create a modified environmental project survey;
selecting said at least one predefined criteria data category on said modified environmental project survey; and
transmitting said modified environmental project survey to a central station.
43. (Currently amended) The method of claim 42 further comprising:
editing said transmitted modified environmental project survey after it is stored at said central station.
44. (Currently amended) A method of generating a report from a database containing data which represents at least one stored user identified environmental project ~~including, which includes~~ at least one predefined criteria data category and data representative of at least one resource provider ~~including, which includes~~ at least one specific criteria, said database connected to a display and an input device, comprising:
selecting said at least one predefined criteria data category of said user identified environmental project to query with said input device;
matching at least one of said predefined criteria data category with at least one of said specific criteria of said at least one resource provider;

- generating, responsive to said ~~selecting~~, said step of matching, a report which identifies the match of said predefined criteria data category of said user identified environmental project with said at least one of said specific criteria of said at least one resource provider; and
- displaying the results of said report to said display.
45. (Currently amended) A method for producing a matched environmental project survey including, which includes at least one predefined criteria data category, with at least one resource provider comprising:
- providing at least one server computer located at a central station in communication with a computer network;
 - generating at least one environmental project survey from said server computer;
 - transmitting said at least one environmental project survey from said server computer to at least one remote computer;
 - inputting data received from a user to at least one of said predefined criteria data category on said at least one environmental project survey to create a modified environmental project survey;
 - transmitting said ~~inputted~~ modified environmental project survey to said at least one server computer;
 - storing data representative of said at least one resource provider at said central station; and
 - matching said at least one predefined criteria data category from said at least one modified environmental project survey with data representative of said at least one resource provider.
46. (Currently amended) The method of claim 45 wherein said step of matching comprises a relational database match among the stored at least one said predefined criteria data category from said at least one modified environmental project survey and said data representative of at least one said resource provider.

Claim 47 and 48 (Canceled)